

### REMARKS

Claims 25, 26, and 40 have been amended according to the suggestions of the Examiner. The rejection of claims 25 and 26 under §§ 101 and 102, as well as the objection to claim 40 should therefore be withdrawn. No new matter has been added in view of the present amendments.

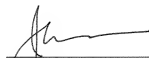
CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that this case is now in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

If there are any charges or any credits, please apply them to Deposit Account No. 03-2095.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3 January 2006



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